

Appl. No. 10/657,386
Amdt. dated Mar. 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of Dec. 15, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A container system for dispensing individual paper products, the container system comprising:

a cartridge containing paper products; and
a container;

where the container comprises:

a housing including side walls and a bottom wall defining an interior surface and an interior area within the interior surface;

a cover hingedly or removably attached to the housing wherein the cover defines a dispensing opening;

a spring disposed in the interior area of the housing; and

a plunger disposed in the interior area of the housing wherein the spring is compressed between the plunger and at least one of the walls, and further wherein the plunger is urged toward the dispensing opening by the spring; and

where the cartridge defines a second opening, the second opening being adapted for receiving the plunger wherein the plunger extends through the second opening into the interior area of the cartridge to contact the paper products and urge the paper products toward the dispensing opening.

Claim 2 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 1 wherein the plunger comprises a truncated cone.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The container system of claim 2 wherein the truncated cone comprises a bottom surface having a diameter substantially equivalent to the diameter of the spring.

Claim 4 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 2 further wherein the plunger comprises at least one stabilizing wing.

Claim 5 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 4 wherein the at least one stabilizing wing has an outer edge that contacts the inside surface of the housing to prevent the plunger from binding in the housing.

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Claim 6 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 1 further comprising an internal platform in contact with the plunger.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 6 wherein the internal platform comprises notches to minimize contact of the internal platform with the internal surface of the housing.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 6 further comprising paper products contained within the housing wherein the paper products are urged toward the dispensing opening by the internal platform.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The container system of claim 8 wherein the internal platform applies substantially constant pressure against the paper products.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently amended) The system of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the cartridge comprises cartridge side walls, a first end wall defining a third opening for dispensing the paper products, and a second end wall opposing the first end wall, wherein the second opening is defined by the second end wall.

Claim 12 (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the cartridge further comprises an internal platform that engages the plunger.

Claim 13 (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the cartridge further comprises platform supports, wherein the platform supports support the internal platform within the cartridge when the cartridge is being inserted in the housing.

Claim 14 (Currently amended) The system of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the cartridge further comprises a removable portion, removal of the removable portion creating the second opening.

Claim 15 (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the removable portion comprises at least one flap.

Claim 16 (Currently amended) The system of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the container comprises tabs positioned on the interior surface of the housing, and further wherein the cartridge defines slots positioned to engage the tabs to prevent insertion of the cartridge when the cartridge is improperly oriented.

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Claim 17 (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the slots are defined within a side wall of the cartridge.

Claim 18 (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the cartridge comprises flaps, wherein the flaps open to receive the plunger, and further wherein the flaps define the slots, and even further wherein the slots are positioned to engage the tabs when the flaps are open to receive the plunger and when the cartridge is improperly oriented.

Claim 19 (Currently amended) The system of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the spring applies substantially constant pressure against the paper products.

Claim 20 (Currently amended) The system of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the container is positioned within a supporting structure.

Claim 21 (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the cover is flush with the supporting structure.

Claim 22 (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the cover extends slightly from the supporting structure.

Claim 23 (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the container is supported within the supporting structure by flanges intersecting the side walls at the edges farthest from the bottom wall.

Claim 24 (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the paper products are urged toward the dispensing opening in a substantially vertical direction.

Claim 25 (Currently amended) A container for dispensing individual paper products, the container comprising:

a housing including side walls and a bottom wall defining an interior surface and an interior area within the interior surface for receiving a plurality of the paper products;

a cover hingedly or removably attached to the housing wherein the cover defines a dispensing opening;

a means for elevating paper products; and

a plunger disposed in the interior area of the housing wherein the means for elevating paper products is positioned between the plunger and at least one of the walls, and further wherein the plunger is urged toward the dispensing opening, and

a cartridge containing paper products, the cartridge defining a dispensing opening and a second opening wherein the means for elevating paper products extends

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through the second opening into the interior area of the cartridge to contact the paper products and urge the paper products toward the dispensing opening.

Claim 26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Currently amended) A container for dispensing individual paper products, the container comprising:

a housing including side walls and a bottom wall defining an interior surface and an interior area within the interior surface for receiving a plurality of the paper products, and a cover defining a dispensing opening for removal of paper products from the interior area,

a spring-loaded plunger disposed in the interior area of the housing for elevating the paper products toward the dispensing opening, and

a cartridge having an interior area containing paper products, the cartridge having a first end and a second end, the first end having a first opening for dispensing of paper products, the second end having a second opening through which the spring-loaded plunger extends into the interior area of the cartridge.

Claim 28 (Cancelled)